

New England Wind Power Siting Workshop Highlights

National Wind Coordinating
Committee

10/24/01

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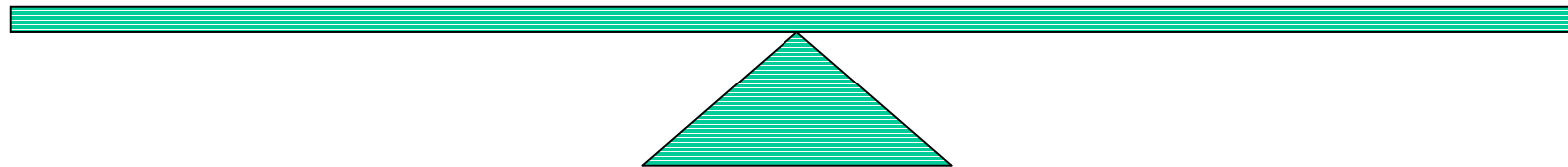
Site Evaluation and Selection

- Wind project developers conduct thorough site evaluations
- Experts available to conduct research in support of these evaluations
- Results for selected sites indicate minor, manageable impacts ...provide they obey
- Kerlinger's Law - "If you have to go beyond Chapters 1 and 2..., you should consider another site.

Approvals Process Goal:

Streamline the
decision making

Maintain strong
local input



Project	Local Input	Clear Decision	One Stop Shop	Public Good Considered
Searsburg	Some	Yes	Yes	Yes - State PSB
Brodie Mtn.	Controlling	No	No	No - local permit
Madison, NY	Controlling	Yes	Yes	Yes - SEQRA

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Education Leads To Public Acceptance

- Engage public and stakeholders early and often
- Local government and NGO efforts can increase acceptance of project and developer
- Communicating benefits is key

Benefit/Impact Conundrum

	Benefits	Impacts
Local	Property taxes Lease payments Jobs Pride Tourism	Visual Noise (maybe) Visual Ecosystem (maybe) Visual Tourism
Distant	Acid rain nitrification Mercury Global warming Energy security Risk mitigation	

Miscellaneous Points

- Novelty of approval process burdens all projects in New England; NY and PA approaching critical mass
- Accurate, high quality visual simulations are essential to success

Success Factors -

Each necessary but not sufficient

- Appropriate project for site
- Local project champion
- Clear approval process with distinct decision point
- Seasoned experts conduct a thorough site evaluation
- Educate - educate - educate

Next Steps

- Advocate for a clear, effective approval process in Massachusetts. Elsewhere?
- Consider statewide stakeholder process to identify zones appropriate and inappropriate for wind development
- Explore government and NGO roles in educating and confidence building for projects
- Build more projects - relieve Searsburg of its poster child burden